

PROJECT TITLE : PILOT-PLANT OPERATIONS
PERIOD COVERED : JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 23 1982
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1. EQUIPMENT

1.1. Rotocell Extractor

The extraction temperature of 80°C can now be maintained in the extractor by means of the two heat-exchangers which have been installed (1). Since their installation, the occasional presence of nitrite has been able to be avoided (2).

In addition, the level of the extract in the different pumping sections is now kept at a minimum to avoid any possible accumulation of micro-organisms in the extract.

The reduction in this level could be achieved by modifying the extraction system. This modification involved changing the cross counter-current extraction in such a way as to make it work more like that of a simple counter-current.

Also the outlet of the extract is now maintained at a minimum level by means of an automatic level controller.

1.2. 20-1 Fermentor

Our small fermentor was given to Chemap for complete servicing.

At the beginning of March, it will again be installed in the pilot-plant and will be ready for further trials.

1.3. Sterilizing Filtration

Due to the presence of micro-organisms in the demineralized water in the pilot-plant, a sterilizing filter was installed on the pipe at the position just before the water enters the storage tank of the pilot-plant.

2. DRYING OF STRIPS

On February 19, the under-signed went to Quester in Cologne to inspect the purchased drying chamber.

The apparatus was found to be nearly completed and its transport to Neuchâtel is planned for the beginning of March.

3. REFERENCES

1. Lüthi-N, Monthly Report, Pilot-Plant Operations, January 1982)
2. Lüthi-N, Monthly Report, Pilot-Plant Operations, June 1981

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